

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for modulating an alpha 6 subunit containing integrin-mediated signal transduction is described. The method involves contacting a cell with an effective integrin modulating amount of an alpha 6 subunit containing integrin-mediated signal transduction pathway modification agent. Preferred agents are peptides having the formula f-Met-Leu-X, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr-Phe, Phe-Phe and Phe-Tyr.